

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

DEPT PASS ACTION IMMEDIATE SECDEF FOR ISA
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EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR PFOR GR US
SUBJECT: US-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS: INTELLIGENCE
ISSUES

REF: STATE 80058 DTG 090046Z APR 77

1. DURING INTRODUCTION OF INTELLIGENCE ISSUES AT
APRIL 20 WORKING GROUP MEETING, GREEK SIDE AGREED THAT
THE BASIC MATTERS OF GREEK PARTICIPATION IN JOINT
ACTIVITIES AND THE SHARING OF INFORMATION AT IRAKLION
WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY RESOLVED BY FINAL AGREEMENT ON
BRACKETED LANGUAGE IN DCA ARTICLE V (PARTICIPATION), BUT
ALSO POINTED OUT THE NEED TO WORK OUT PRACTICAL DETAILS
WHICH SO FAR HAVE NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.
WE SUGGESTED THAT ANY EXPANSION OF THE DCA OR THE MOU TO
INCLUDE SUCH DETAILS, BEYOND THE SCOPE ENVISIONED IN THE CURRENT DRAF
T,
WOULD REDUCE THE FLEXIBILITY OF
TECHNICIANS ON BOTH SIDES TO WORK TOGETHER LATER IN
ESTABLISHING WORKING ARRANGEMENTS DESIGNED TO SATISFY

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COMMON OBJECTIVES. GREEKS SEEMED RECEPTIVE TO THIS
ARGUMENT. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS TOO EARLY TO CONCLUDE
THAT THEY WILL AGREE TO THE DEFERMENT OF ALL DETAILS
UNTIL AFTER DCA NEGOTIATIONS ARE COMPLETED.

2. GREEKS REAFFIRMED THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE
PROCES-VERBAL LIMITED THEIR SHARING OF INFORMATION

AND PARTICIPATION TO THAT ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMON THREAT AND OFFERED ASSURANCES THAT THEY HAD NO INTENT TO INTRODUCE ANY NEW PROVISIONS WHICH WOULD VIOLATE THIS UNDERSTANDING.

3. AFTER MAGNIFYING THE MASSIVE NEW EFFORT UNDERTAKEN BY THE USG TO FIND A WAY TO SATISFY GREEK CONCERNS ON SEPARATION (JOINT AND US-ONLY AREAS), VERIFICATION, AND ACCESS AT IRAKLION, THE US SIDE PRESENTED AS A PACKAGE THE POSITIONS SPECIFIED IN REFTEL PARA 5, SUBPARAS (A), (B), AND (C). IN SO DOING, WE DESCRIBED THE PACKAGE AS ONE WHICH PRESSED AGAINST THE OUTER LIMITS OF FUNDAMENTAL US NATIONAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS BEYOND WHICH WE COULD NOT GO. ANTICIPATING GREEK RESISTANCE TO PARA 5 (C), WHICH LIMITS ACCESS TO THE INSTALLATION COMMANDER, WE ALSO INFORMED THEM THAT ALL THREE ELEMENTS OF THE PACKAGE WERE INEXTRICABLY LINKED AND NOT SUBJECT TO SEPARATE NEGOTIATION.

4. GREEKS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE DIFFICULTIES THIS ISSUE POSES FOR THE US AND CHARACTERIZED THE US POSITION AS A FORTHCOMING EFFORT TO SATISFY GREEK REQUIREMENTS. THEIR INITIAL OVERALL ATTITUDE WAS POSITIVE, EVEN THOUGH THEY DID ASK THAT WE CONSIDER EXPANDING OUR POSITION ON ACCESS TO INCLUDE "THE INSTALLATION COMMANDER OR HIS AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE." (GREEK INTENT OBVIOUSLY IS TO GAIN ACCESS FOR A PERSON TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED TO UNDERSTAND THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY.) THE US SIDE REITERATED

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THAT THE PACKAGE NOW PROPOSED WOULD SATISFY ALL GREEK REQUIREMENTS AND THAT WE COULD NOT CONSIDER MODIFICATION OF THE THIRD ELEMENT FOR REASONS PREVIOUSLY STATED.

5. GREEK SPOKESMAN MACHERITSAS STATED HE WOULD PRESENT THE US PROPOSAL TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN FAVORABLE TERMS AND PROMISED A PROMPT REPLY.
KUBISCH

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